Mr. T. Muhamed Ismail: May I know whether an L. M. P. non-Muslim is more qualified than an L. M. P. Muslim

Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai: They are equally qualified.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know whether those appointed had acted before or whether they were fresh hands?

Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai: They had acted previously.

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli, and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertalla*): May I know why the Ezhava candidate who has acted before is not appointed?

Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai: I claim notice.

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan: May I know whether he is in service now?

Mr. K. P. Raman Pillai: I claim notice.

Construction of a bridge at Palai.

112. ***Mr. R. V. Thomas**: Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) in which year the construction of a bridge at Palai was sanctioned by Government;

(*b*) in which year the amount sanctioned for the bridge was first included in the budget;

(*c*) when the actual construction of the bridge was begun; and

(*d*) when it was washed away by the floods?

Mr. R. Krishnaswami Rao: (*a*) 1916 A. D./1092 M. E.

(*b*) 1099 M. E.

(*c*) 1101 M. E.

(*d*) 1104 M. E.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: May I know when the Government intends to construct the bridge?

Mr. R. Krishnaswami Rao: When funds permit.

Measures to improve the price of cocoanuts.

113. ***Mr. K. M. Korah**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have made any representations to the Government of India relative to improving the price of cocoanuts produced in India and also to state the nature of the action taken by the Government of India on these representations?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: Yes. A deputation waited on the Honourable the Commerce Member, the Honourable the Finance Member and the Honourable Member for Lands, Health and Education, of the Government of India, and discussed with them the various aspects of the question of affording adequate protection to the cocoanut industry. The deputation furnished necessary facts

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and figures to prove the urgent necessity for the protection of the industry and submitted a note setting forth the arguments for protection. In the course of the discussion the Honourable Members asked for some additional data which were not available at the time. Dr. Kunjan Pillai, after his return from Simla, had these data collected and prepared another note which is being transmitttd to the Government of India. From what is stated above, it will be seen that the question of giving adequate protection to the cocoanut ndustry is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Complaint against certain members of the Reserve Police.

114. *Mr. N. V. Chacko: Will the Government be pleased o state :

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to an article published on page 8 of the morning edition of the "Malayala Manorama" dated 1st January 1938, in which reference is made to a petition to the Commissioner of Police signed by 15 persons in the Muvattupuzha taluk complaining that they were outrageously and atrociously treated by some members of the Travancore reserve police :

(*b*) whether they have made an enquiry into the matter ;

(*c*) whether any action has been taken against the members of the reserve police against whom complaints of such inhuman and brutal conduct have been made ;

(*d*) the names of the members of the reserve police against whom the complaints referred to above have been made :

(*e*) the name of the officer of the reserve police, under whom these members of the reserve police against whom the complaints are made, are placed ;

(*f*) whether acts equally heinous and wicked have not been committed by members of the reserve police against innocent people of the northern frontier taluks on many a peavious occasion ;

(*g*) what action they have taken to punish such offences and prevent the repetition of their offences and crimes ; and

(*h*) whether any of the Excise C. I. D. people or informers are involved in the committing of the offences referred to in (*a*) and (*e*) above ?

Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes ; the enquiry disclosed that the allegations were mischievous and false.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*)

(*d*) Chellappan Pillai,
Kolappan Pillai,
Nilakanta Pillai and Bhaskara Pillai.

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